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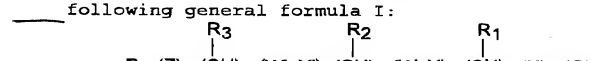
1. (Twice Amended) A chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog with increased biological potency, of the following general formula:

A1-A2-Asp-Ala-Ile-Phe-Thr-A8-Ser-Tyr-Arg-Lys-Val-Leu-A15-Gln-Leu-A18-Ala-Arg-Lys-Leu-Leu-A24-Asp-Ile-A27-A28-Arg-A30-R_0

wherein,

A1 is Tyr or His;
A2 is Val or Ala;
A8 is Asn or Ser;
A18 is Ser or Thr;
A15 is Ala or Gly;
A24 is Gln or His;
A27 is Met, Ile or Nle;
A28 is Ser or Asp;
A30 is any amino acid sequence of 1 to 15 residues;
R_0 is NH_2;

wherein A1 is N- [or O-]anchored by a hydrophobic tail of the following general formula I:



$$R_4\text{-}(Z)_h\text{-}(CH)_g\text{-}(W'{=}Y')_f\text{-}(CH)_e\text{-}(W{=}Y)_d\text{-}(CH)_c\text{-}(X)_b\text{-}(G)_a\text{-} \quad I$$

wherein,

G is a carbonyl[, a phosphonyl, a sulfuryl or a sulfinyl] group;
X is a oxygen atom, sulfur atom or an amino group (NH);
(W=Y) represents *cis* or *trans* (CH=CR5);
(W'=Y') represents *cis* or *trans* (CH=CR6);
Z is an oxygen or a sulfur atom;
R_1, R_2 and R_3, independently, are selected from [a hydroxyl group,] a hydrogen atom, and a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl group;
R_4 is [an hydroxyl group,] a hydrogen atom[or a linear or branched C_5-C_9 alkyl group];

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R_5 and R_6, independently, are a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl group;
a is [0 or] 1;
b is 0 [or 1];
c is 0 to [8]3;
d is 0 or 1;
e is 0 to [8]3;
f is 0 or 1;
g is 0 to [8]4;
h is 0 [to 1];

wherein the sum of d + f = 1 or 2 and the sum of a, b, c, d, e, f, g and h is such that the hydrophobic tail of formula I has a linear main chain of between 5 and 7 carbon atoms [(C, O and/or S)].

~~6.~~ 12 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim [4]~~1~~, 1 wherein c is 0.

~~7.~~ 13 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim ~~5~~, 2 wherein A30 is Gln-Gln-Gly-Glu-Ser-Asn-Gln-Glu-Arg-Gly-Ala-Arg-Ala-Arg-Leu.

~~8.~~ 14 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim ~~6~~, 3 wherein R_0 is NH_2.

~~9.~~ 15 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim ~~1~~, 4 of the formula *cis*CH_3-CH_2-CH=CH-CH_2-CO-Tyr-Ala-Asp-Ala-Ile-Phe-Thr-Asn-Ser-Tyr-Arg-Lys-Val-Leu-Gly-Gln-Leu-Ser-Ala-Arg-Lys-Leu-Leu-Gln-Asp-Ile-Met-Ser-Arg-Gln-Gln-Gly-Glu-Ser-Asn-Gln-Glu-Arg-Gly-Ala-Arg-Ala-Arg-Leu-NH_2 or *trans*CH_3-CH_2-CH=CH-CH_2-CO-Tyr-Ala-Asp-Ala-Ile-Phe-Thr-Asn-Ser-Tyr-Arg-Lys-Val-Leu-Gly-Gln-Leu-Ser-Ala-Arg-Lys-Leu-Leu-Gln-Asp-Ile-Met-Ser-Arg-Gln-Gln-Gly-Glu-Ser-Asn-Gln-Glu-Arg-Gly-Ala-Arg-Ala-Arg-Leu-NH_2.

9. 6 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim 1, wherein [A1 is Tyr or His N-alpha anchored by hydrophobic tail of formula I, wherein a= 1; each of b and h= 0;] the sum d + f= 2;[G= carbonyl;] R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4= hydrogen atom and the sum c + e + g= 2, 3 or 4.

10. 7 The chimeric fatty body[-pro-]GRF analog of claim 1, wherein [A1 is Tyr or His N-alpha anchored by hydrophobic tail of formula I, wherein a= 1; each of b and h= 0; the sum of d + f = 1 or 2; G= carbonyl;] R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4= hydrogen atom; and the sum c + e + g= 3, 4 or 5.

18 cancel. 11. 9 A pharmaceutical formulation for inducing growth hormone release which comprises as an active ingredient a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 21~~ 8 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

12. 10 A method of increasing the level of growth hormone in a patient which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~21~~ 8

13. 11 A method for the diagnosis of growth hormone deficiencies in patients, which comprises administering to said patient a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~21~~ 8 and measuring the growth hormone response.

14. 12 A method for the treatment of pituitary dwarfism or growth retardation in a patient, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~21~~. 8

15. 13 A method for the treatment of wound or bone healing in a patient, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~21~~. 8

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~~16~~ 14. A method for the treatment of osteoporosis in a patient, which comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~21~~ 18.

~~17~~ 15. A method for improving protein anabolism in human or animal, which comprises administering to said human or animal an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~22~~ 18.

~~18~~ 16. A method for inducing a lipolytic effect in human or animal inflicted with clinical obesity, which comprises administering to said human or animal an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~23~~ 18.

~~19~~ 17. A method for the overall upgrading of somatroph function in human or animal, which comprises administering to said human or animal an effective amount of a GRF analog as claimed in claim 1 or ~~24~~ 18.

Please add claim 21:

~~21~~ 18. (Added) The chimeric fatty body GRF analog of claim ~~1~~ 14 of the formula *trans*CH_3-CH_2-CH=CH-CH_2-CO-Tyr-Ala-Asp-Ala-Ile-Phe-Thr-Asn-Ser-Tyr-Arg-Lys-Val-Leu-Gly-Gln-Leu-Ser-Ala-Arg-Lys-Leu-Leu-Gln-Asp-Ile-Met-Ser-Arg-Gln-Gln-Gly-Glu-Ser-Asn-Gln-Glu-Arg-Gly-Ala-Arg-Ala-Arg-Leu-NH_2.

Please cancel claims 2,3,4 and 20.

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